

ALEXANDRIA COMMISSION ON HIV/AIDS
MINUTES
May 16, 2022
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kristin Donley, Nicole Hutchinson, Arion Lillard-Green, Gerald Padmore, Andrew Torre

AHD STAFF: Nechelle Terrell

ABSENT: Pablo Moulden, Chennel Hill-Welbon

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Arion Lillard-Green, Chair, at 6:30 p.m.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Commissioners and staff introduced themselves. Caitlin Prather, Pharmacist from Inova Juniper joined the commission meeting virtually as a guest.

III. GUEST PRESENTATION – “HIV VACCINE AWARENESS”

Caitlin Prather, Clinical Pharmacy Specialist at Inova Juniper Program, presented on the status of HIV Vaccines. She provided a background on HIV, that included the number of people living with HIV in the US, (37.7 million) and the number of people who died from HIV/AIDS complication in 2020 (680,000) people are living with HIV in the US. She shared that the goal is develop a safe, effective and affordable vaccine that will prevent HIV infection in uninfected people.

Caitlin went on to discuss the history of vaccine trials and challenges compared to the development of a COVID-19 vaccine. She discussed recent vaccine efficacy trials as well as what is currently on the horizon. A copy of the presentation can be provided upon request.

IV. REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF APRIL MINUTES

The minutes from the April meeting were distributed and reviewed. Commissioner Gerald Padmore moved to accept the minutes. Commissioner Kristen Donley second the motion. The minutes passed unanimously.

V. NATIONAL HIV TESTING DAY UPDATE

In recognition of National HIV Testing Day, observed June 27 of each year, Alexandria Health Department will offer FREE HIV Testing in the parking lot of Tenants and Workers United from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on June 27. Gift cards will be distributed to the first 10 participants. Safeway has donated six and commissioners can donate towards the purchase of additional gift cards.

The Northern Clergy Council for the Prevention of HIV/AIDS has created a video to encourage HIV testing in our communities. Larry Bryant, a resident of Alexandria and graduate of T.C. Williams High School class of 1985 is featured in the video. Nechelle will forward the link to commissioners.

VI. COMMISSIONER/AGENCY UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS)

Kristen announced that ACAP is creating a Family Life Education Workgroup to work on revising ACPS curriculum. Looking for volunteers, students and community members, to provide any feedback.

Commission for Women

Nicole announced that the Commission for Women is currently in the rebuilding phase and will have retreat in September, planning events for early 2023. The Friends of the Commission has dissolved as well and has spun off as another agency.

Inova Juniper Program

Gerald announced that Mara Carter is the new Senior Director at Inova Juniper Program.

Inova is working on a grant with Neighborhood Health focusing on African American and Latino communities. Capitol Pride is June 10 -12. Inova now has a Pride Resource Group, participating in activities will be throughout the weekend. The Inova Pride clinic is up and running. Inova will also participate in Loudon Pride on Sunday, June 26 in Sterling, VA.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.